

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Amend the specification as indicated below by the markings.

[0061] In a specific embodiment, the vector of the invention is a homologous recombination vector with positive-negative selection comprising first and second homology regions substantially identical to a first and second sequence, respectively, of the mouse Sigma-1 gene, a nucleotide sequence comprising the *neo* gene and a nucleotide sequence comprising the *tk* gene, such as the vector known as pHR53TK (see Figure 7), deposited in the Colección Española de Cultivos Tipo (CECT) under accession number CECT 5737 on October 4, 2002, which can be used to transform mouse cells, such as ES embryonic mouse cells, containing the endogenous Sigma-1 receptor gene, by homologous recombination and to obtain mouse cells, firstly with one of the mutated alleles of the endogenous Sigma-1 receptor gene, and secondly, by a second homologous recombination event in the remaining wild allele of the genome, which lacks detectable levels of messenger RNA or protein for the endogenous Sigma-1 receptor. Example 1.2 describes in detail the construction of the pHR53TK vector.